



MARYLAND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



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GEMAC Quarterly Meeting

May 21, 2019
11:30am – 1:30pm

Agenda

Welcome and Announcements.....11:30am

Maryland Department of Environment and Department of Natural Resources Discussion

Synopsis:

As our surroundings and climate continuously evolve, Marylanders are faced with determining how best to respond and adapt to these changes. Mitigation is at the forefront of reducing and eliminating the impacts of future conditions. Through mitigation the actions required to respond to natural disasters can be lessened; the time needed to recover can be shortened; and mitigation aids in building a culture of preparedness. Pursuing mitigation in the short term will boost the efficacy of Maryland's initiatives to build a resilient community.

Key Questions:

1. *What are the greatest challenges Maryland will face as we work towards building a resilient communities?*
2. *In terms of innovative approaches, how can Maryland be proactive to adapt to our evolving surroundings?*
3. *What does mitigation mean for your agency?*

Key Points:

- *Mitigation can be broadly defined as the capabilities necessary to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters. Mitigation capabilities include, but are not limited to, community-wide risk reduction projects; efforts to improve the resilience of critical infrastructure and key resource lifelines; risk reduction for specific vulnerabilities from natural hazards or acts of terrorism; and initiatives to reduce future risks after a disaster has occurred.*
- *A multifaceted approach is needed to protect life, property, and the environment. Interagency collaboration will be needed to approach mitigation comprehensively.*

Question & Answer

Lunch.....12:30pm

Call Back to Order.....12:30pm

SERC Mission Committee Business

MEMA Disaster Risk Reduction & Strategic Directorate Presentation

Mitigation Presentation

Wrap Up/Future Meetings.....1:15pm

- *Situational awareness on current risk reduction and resilience efforts (e.g., programs and groups such MD Commission on Climate Change or "hazard mitigation grants" elsewhere in the state outside of MEMA's Hazard Mitigation Program) and providing recommendations on how to synergize these efforts across the state -- this would help the DRRWG to "hit the ground running"*
- *Focus on State policy, legislation, and programs and exercise influence through white papers (i.e., position papers) presenting recommendations*
- *Usefulness of a multi-year plan to the Governor that details what the GEMAC will focus on over his/her 4 year term (should be adaptable to fit new threats)*
- *Group Composition*
- *State governmental organization scaffolding of emergency management (does the structure fit the need?)*
- *GEMAC's role in NG-911 given ENSB and the NG911 Commission*
- *WEA and alternative messaging (COOP)*
- *Interest and value in annual meetings between GEMAC, MACo, and MML*
- *Solicit feedback on Governor's current EM priorities*
- *Private sector integration*
- *Optimizing the VOAD - what recommendations can be given to the Governor to get this on his radar? How can we improve? What are the current challenges?*
- *Educating the public - what is the current narrative in the public, what are the most critical educational needs, where can the GEMAC be of most use?*
- *Integrating and synchronizing use of data (i.e., intelligence and situational awareness) across response and recovery operations*

Depart for Bay Cabinet Meeting.....1:30pm

(Bay Cabinet Meeting: Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology (IMET) 701 E Pratt Street Baltimore, MD 21202)